Available for Preservation:
The Thomas Lyman house, Durham

On June 21 the Connecticut Trust officially became the owner of the Thomas Lyman house, in Durham, thanks to a most generous gift from Lillian Hardy of New York. Built in 1778, the Lyman house has been an important part of Durham’s history for more than 200 years. Its builder was a member of a prominent local family, and the house itself is notable for its elegant and well-preserved Georgian design, starting with its imposing double-hipped roof and featuring a gracious center hall, fine paneling, and more. In recognition of its significance, the house has been recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey and individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The house sits on a thirteen-acre parcel which embraces two ponds, an outbuilding, and a tennis court. Inside are thirteen large rooms.

continued on page 2
In coming months, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA) will announce plans to offer a number of historic houses for sale. The Authority used the buildings as rental properties for many years, but ten years ago decided to get out of the rental business, in order to concentrate on its primary mission of providing water to area communities.

The houses came to preservationists’ attention in 2003 when RWA first obtained permission to sell them but then decided to offer them for moving instead. At that time, the Authority hired the Connecticut Trust to evaluate their historic and architectural significance. The Trust found that the houses, built between the late 18th to early 20th centuries, contributed to the history and character of their communities, and many had architectural significance as well.

The Trust also concluded that the costs of moving the houses would prove prohibitive and included the buildings in its Most Important Threatened Historic Places list in 2004. In fact, no takers could meet the Authority’s requirements. Since then, two have been demolished, and one small outbuilding—an early gas station—was moved to the North Branford Historical Society’s property. The Elam Ives house, in Hamden, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010; the town currently leases the house from RWA. Mayor Scott Jackson reports that the Authority’s restrictions have limited the building’s marketability, and it remains vacant, as do the others.

This year the Connecticut General Assembly passed an amendment to RWA’s enabling legislation which allows the Authority to sell property—and this time the authorization has no expiration date. According to John Triana, RWA’s Real Estate Manager, the Authority is now in the process of determining which properties can be sold. Sometime in the fall, the Authority will announce plans to offer houses for sale, one or two at a time. The process won’t be quick; there are approvals to be gotten from several RWA boards and committees, and towns and the state will have the right of first refusal. But this development offers one more chance for preserving these houses—a chance that many feared never would come. The Trust has offered once again to help the Water Authority to evaluate and market the houses; watch Connecticut Preservation News and www.cttrust.org for updates.

Lyman house, cont’d from page 1

with high ceilings complimented by nine fireplaces as well as original floors, hardware, and sliding shutters.

The Trust is offering the Lyman house for sale, with the proceeds used to launch a new Revolving Fund for preservation projects around the state. A preservation easement will ensure that the house continues to be a highlight of the Durham landscape.

The Thomas Lyman house is offered for sale at $629,000. For more information, call the Connecticut Trust at (203) 562-6312 or email info@cttrust.org.

Both photos, C. Wigren

Architectural details in the Lyman house.
From the Executive Director

The summer began with an honor: Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven presented the Trust with its Master Builder award. The award recognized the Trust’s assistance in Habitat’s renovation of the Maselli farm-house in Hamden, including an Historic Preservation Technical Assistance Grant for creating renovation plans and specifications and ongoing technical advice. We at the Trust were proud to receive this award, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with this worthy organization.

The Lyman house in Durham occupied much of our time. We received the house, a more-than-generous donation from Lillian S. Hardy, of New York, in June. Since then, we have been busy getting it ready for market—cleaning and making some basic repairs, installing a new septic system, and drawing up a preservation easement to ensure that this marvelous house will continue to be one of the architectural and historic gems of Durham. In early August, the house formally went on the market, listed with John Campbell of Page-Taft/Christie’s. You can read more about it on page 1.

The Trust welcomed two new staff members over the summer:

Wes Haynes becomes the third Connecticut Circuit Rider. A resident of Stamford, Wes brings a rich background to the Trust, including experience with the New York Landmarks Conservancy, the Preservation League of New York State, the New Jersey Historic Trust, teaching at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and private practice with such leading preservation architectural firms as The Ehrenkantz Group and John G. Waite Associates.

Erin Marchitto is the Trust’s new Communications Manager. A recent graduate of the Public History program at Central Connecticut State University, she has worked for Mystic Seaport, New London Landmarks, as well as an IT firm.

In addition, a new project has brought new responsibilities for some of our current staff. For our arts and letters survey (see page 4), Kristen Nietering will be the project manager, with the assistance of Charlotte Hitchcock.

Finally, the summer brought changes to the State Historic Preservation Office, in the Department of Economic and Community Development. In August, Susan Chandler, the office’s historical architect, retired after 25 years of service. At about the same time, Daniel Forrest was named Director of Art and Historic Preservation at DECD and State Historic Preservation Office. We wish Susan the best and look forward to continuing to work closely with Dan and the rest of our partners at the State.

—Helen Higgins

Upcoming Meetings

Connecticut Historic Preservation Council
October 2, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.
November 6, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

State Historic Preservation Board
October 21, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

All meetings take place at the State Historic Preservation Office Department of Economic and Community Development Main Conference Room 1 Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor Hartford, Connecticut
For more information call (860) 256-2800
Connecticut Arts and Letters: The Twentieth Century

When Nathaniel Batchelder, the first head of Windsor’s Loomis Institute (now Loomis-Chaffee School) commissioned sculptor Evelyn Longman (1874-1954) to create a memorial to his late wife, he surely did not expect to fall in love with the artist. In 1920 the couple married, and Batchelder built a studio for his wife on the school’s campus, where she created such works as a portrait of Thomas Edison and The Spirit of Victory, Hartford’s Spanish-American War memorial.

Now a dormitory, the studio is one of the sites that the Connecticut Trust will document in a new project to identify, survey, and designate places associated with artists, writers, and other creative thinkers of the 20th century, thanks to a generous grant from the State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development. Focusing on the period from World War I to about 1970, the Trust will survey sites, prepare nominations to the State Register of Historic Places, and create a visitors’ guide on the model of our Connecticut Barns trail.

We need your help! Do you know of places where artists or writers lived or worked? Did your town have a colony of creative summer people or a foundry that cast sculptures? Do you know of specific Connecticut places that inspired works of art or literature? If so, please call Kristen Nietering at (203) 562-6312 or send an email to knietering@cttrust.org.

Circuit Riders Get Professional Certification

Connecticut Circuit Riders Brad Schide and Gregory Farmer received certification as Historic Real Estate Development Finance Professionals (HHDFPs) from the National Development Council (NDC). HHDFP certification is a professional credential given to individuals who successfully complete NDC’s intensive historic real estate development finance training series. The training provides individuals working in the field of housing development, with instruction in housing development finance; rental housing development finance, including problem solving and deal structuring; and the creation and implementation of development programs.

The three HHDFP certification program courses were five days long and concluded with an exam. Upon successful completion of all three courses, candidates are awarded HHDFP certification.

Brad and Greg are already using this training in their work helping communities around the state to put historic resources to new and better use. The skills they have gained will be especially valuable as the Trust launches its new revolving fund.

The National Development Council was established in 1969 and is a nonprofit organization specializing in economic and housing development training and technical assistance for community development. NDC has provided training to more than 60,000 professionals working in the fields of economic and housing development. Participants come from diverse backgrounds, including city and state governments, public agencies, community-based organizations, professional organizations, and banks.

Correction

The Stony Creek Puppet Theatre (July/August 2013, page 6) was built in 1914, not 1903 as the National Register nomination states. Thanks to John Kirby, of Branford, who found an article in The Shore Line Times reporting that the foundation was laid in August of that year.
Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Assistance Grant

On behalf of the National Park Service, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is offering grant assistance for the restoration of properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places which were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The grants will provide technical assistance and emergency repairs to historic and archaeological resources in Fairfield, New Haven, Middlesex, and New London counties which were impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Only hurricane-related damage is eligible for grant assistance.

Grants will range from $2,500 to $500,000. In order to be eligible, properties must be listed on or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act, and post-disaster recovery guidelines. These are reimbursement grants; recipients must complete and pay for all work before receiving funds. All projects will include a preservation restriction.

SHPO will hold four training sessions to help potential applicants learn how to complete the online application and to answer questions. The sessions will be held at One Constitution Plaza, Hartford, on the following dates:

Monday, September 23, at 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 24, at 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, September 25, at 9:00 a.m.
Thursday, September 26, at 2:00 p.m.

Applications deadlines are:
Round 1: Friday, November 15, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.
Round 2: Friday, February 14, 2014, at 4:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.cultureandtourism.org, click on “Historic Preservation,” and scroll down to “Hurricane Sandy.” Telephone (860) 256-2768 or (860) 256-2746 or email SHPOSandyRelief@ct.gov.
Local Historic Districts: Protecting Neighborhood Character

Local historic districts and properties provide the most powerful protection available to historic neighborhoods and buildings under Connecticut law. The state-enabled designation mandates that a town commission approve any alterations to building exteriors that would be visible from a public way. Studies have demonstrated that local historic designation can help to stabilize, and in many cases enhance, property values. Connecticut citizens have recognized the value of local historic districts for preserving and enhancing historic neighborhoods by establishing more than 100 local historic districts.

In addition to regulating alterations to buildings, historic district commissions must approve the razing of buildings within local historic districts. Understandably, they do so rarely, but in the past few months two commissions have voted to allow demolitions, generating controversy in their towns.

In Watertown, the historic district commission approved an application by the Taft School to raze a house built in the mid-19th century and build a new one in its place (see CPN, May/June 2013). The school argued that the house, which been a faculty residence, could not be readily remodeled to meet current needs, principally that the ceilings were too low. Some neighbors launched an appeal asking the commission to reconsider.

In June, Milford’s historic district commission approved an application to demolish the Sanford-Bristol house (1790), also located in the River Park National Register district. The owner—ironically, the vice-president of the Milford Historical Society—claims the building is unsafe. Local preservationists disagree. To be sure, the house has been neglected for years, but Timothy Chaucer, an alternate commissioner who participated in a walk-through in January, told The New Haven Register, “It’s built like a tank.” At one point the owners indicated some willingness to sell the house, but they apparently have backed off from that.

In both cases, press coverage suggests that the houses ultimately don’t appeal to their owners. Unfortunately, the commissions seem to have had no criteria in place for evaluating applications for demolition, and particularly for judging the claims of structural inadequacy. The Milford commission hired an independent engineer who agreed that the Sanford-Bristol house was unsafe. However, the preservationists questioned his qualifications to evaluate historic buildings.

What commissions need is a set of clear guidelines to use in evaluating applications for demolition. Such guidelines should include:

- independent evaluation by a qualified structural engineer with experience and knowledge of historic buildings,
- independent evaluation by a qualified architect with experience and knowledge in rehabbing historic buildings, and
- evidence of sincere efforts to market the building, at a reasonable price and for a reasonable period of time, to find another owner who would preserve it.

In short, the overall criteria should be the same as under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act—that there is no feasible or prudent alternative to demolition. (In fact, both the Milford and Watertown houses are also located in National Register districts, providing an opportunity for preservationists to challenge the demolitions under CEPA.)

Local historic districts have proved a valuable preservation tool because they provide assurance that a neighborhood’s historic character will be preserved. Demolitions erode that character and can have a negative effect on value of neighboring properties. Having clear and rigorous criteria will help historic district commissions to meet their responsibility to the district as a whole and to maintain their own credibility as well.
Available for Preservation:
41 South Main Street, Wallingford

Wallingford’s Town Council voted in August to issue a new request for proposals for the Roger Austin house—locally known as the American Legion building—after one council member reported receiving inquiries about the property, which is a contributing structure in the Wallingford Center National Register district.

After years of litigation, preservationists celebrated in February 2011 when a Superior Court stopped the Town from razing the house for a parking lot, under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act, ruling that demolition was unreasonable. The expectation was that the Town would sell the property and it soon would be put back to use.

Since then, three potential buyers have appeared, only to back out at the last moment. The most recent, a local businessman, withdrew his $75,000 bid in February after discovering that the property has no sewer connection.

According to the National Register, the Queen Anne house was built in about 1890. It is located in the very center of Wallingford, next to town hall, and is zoned for professional offices and multifamily dwellings, while maintaining properties’ residential character. National Register listing means the property can qualify for state or federal rehabilitation tax credits; in addition, nonprofit owners may be able to obtain planning or rehabilitation grants.

As CPN goes to press, Town officials expect to issue a request for proposals in the latter part of August. Watch the Trust’s website, www.cttrust.org, for information as it becomes available.
Two Connecticut sites newly listed on the National Register of Historic Places have ties to great historic tragedies, the Civil War and the Holocaust. By their preservation, these places commemorate devastating loss and witness to human survival.

The Kensington Soldiers’ Monument, in Berlin, was erected in 1863 and is considered the first and oldest Civil War memorial in the country. Conceived by the Reverend Charles B. Hilliard, pastor of the Kensington Congregational Church, the monument was intended to honor six residents of the small community who had been killed in battle. Other names were added as the war carried on, so the monument became a physical expression of the war’s toll, helping those at home to cope with their losses.

Nelson Augustus Moore, a photographer, landscape painter, Kensington resident, and member of the church, designed the simple brownstone obelisk. It resembled contemporary grave monuments, a reflection of its funerary purpose.
However, a cast-iron fence, added in about 1873, indicates that this is no ordinary grave, and a cannon used in the war was installed nearby on the monument’s fiftieth anniversary, in 1913.

In recognition of the 150th anniversary, the Congregational Church, which still owns the monument, recently added a memorial garden around the base and rededicated the monument on July 28, exactly 150 years after its first dedication.

In the Danielson section of Killingly, Temple Beth Israel stands as a reminder of the Holocaust. The congregation was formed largely of Holocaust survivors, refugees who were resettled on area farms with the assistance of the Baron de Hirsch Fund—even though many of them had never farmed. Moreover, the refugees were a disparate group, coming from different areas and adhering to different branches of Judaism. Nonetheless, they managed to forge a community. A congregational history comments, “The handful of Danielson Jews could not afford the luxury of disagreements about how to live as Jews.”

The Modernist synagogue was constructed between 1951 and 1955. William Riseman, a Boston architect and the son of a member, provided the design; fieldstone for the walls came from one family’s farm; and congregation members provided much of the labor. In 1961 the congregation was able to complete the sanctuary, designed by architect Maurice Finegold.

Over the years, the congregation aged and dwindled, and in 2009 it merged with Sons of Zion, in Putnam, to form Congregation B’nai Shalom. However, the Temple Beth Israel Preservation Society continues to own and maintain the building as a community center.

Although Temple Beth Israel was constructed to house a congregation of Holocaust survivors, the architecture of the building did not specifically reference that tragic event until near the end of the sanctuary construction, when the congregation asked Finegold to provide a place in the narthex for memorial plaques. Rather, the existence of the congregation and the entire building could be considered the primary memorial.

Above: Temple Beth Israel, in Danielson, was built for a congregation made up largely of Holocaust survivors.

Left: The Kensington Soldier’s Monument, the first permanent Civil War monument in the country, was rededicated in July.

Tod Bryant

New Listings on the National Register

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News from Around the State

Canton. ►
The town has hired an engineering firm to investigate options for repairing or replacing the Town Bridge over the Farmington River. Built in 1895 by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company and listed on the National Register, the single-lane bridge connects to a residential neighborhood and carries about 250 vehicles per day, according to a town study done in 2008.

Large trucks cannot use the bridge, but there are other ways into the area. Since the structure does not conform to standards needed for Federal funding, the town would have to obtain a waiver to keep it in use. This means that the historic bridge’s days as an active transportation facility could be numbered.

Manchester. ►
After appearing before the State Historic Preservation Council in August, town officials agreed not to demolish the Washington School before providing further information to the State, scheduled at Council’s November meeting. Council members requested information on the school’s proposed educational program and space needs, renovation possibilities, possible alternate sites for a new school, and studies of potential adaptive use of the building.

Mystic. ►
After a nearly five-year restoration Mystic Seaport re-launched the whaling ship Charles W. Morgan on July 21. The ship, a National Historic Landmark and America’s oldest floating commercial vessel, was carefully lowered into the water in a public ceremony. The restoration addressed the hull below the waterline, the majority of which dated to the ship’s original construction in 1841. Work continues, involving rigging, restoring the interior, and installing temporary systems necessary to take her back to sea for a ceremonial voyage in May, 2014. For more information, visit www.mysticseaport.org.
△ Norwich.

The Trust is working with city officials to explore possibilities for the James Smith house (c.1843, NR), in the Jail Hill National Register district, which the City acquired in a foreclosure in May. Smith escaped from slavery in 1842 and established himself as a shoemaker in Norwich. A few years later he was able to buy this house, an event recorded in his 1881 autobiography. While the normal procedure would be to sell the property at auction, City Historian Dale Plummer is advocating for additional efforts to ensure its preservation. continued on page 12

West River Restoration

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Redding.
The State Historic Preservation Council named an historic Revolutionary War encampment an Archaeological Preserve in August. The Middle Encampment was one of three sites in Redding where American soldiers spent the winter of 1778-1779. Archaeological Preserve designation provides some protection to the site, including special evaluation for activities that involve state grants or licensing, such as cell towers, and fines for unauthorized digging or metal-detecting. Research and investigation by faculty and students from Western Connecticut State University helped establish the site’s significance.

Stamford.
The Connecticut Department of Transportation has agreed to an alternate design for the realignment of the intersection of Atlantic and Henry streets, doing away with the need to demolish an historic building (see CPN, March/April 2013). The Stamford Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program and the city’s new Historic Preservation Advisory Commission are now pursuing funding for façade improvements to the building, which is part of the South End National Register district.

Stratford.
In July the General Assembly passed a bill directing the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) to transfer a 2.4-acre piece of Merritt Parkway right-of-way to the Town of Stratford. While DOT typically has an opportunity to comment on property transfers, in this case it was not consulted. In 2012 DOT turned down the town’s request to lease the parcel for a dog walk, as inappropriate to the Parkway’s historic character. DOT, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Merritt Parkway Conservancy, and the Trust are reviewing options to protect this piece of Parkway landscape.

Statewide.
The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is celebrating the creation of the Connecticut State Park Commission 100 years ago, in 1913, and charged with developing a statewide system of parks. Hurd State Park, in East Hampton (pictured), was the first to open, in 1915. Connecticut now has 107 state parks, which attract nearly 8 million visitors per year. Over the years, the development of the parks system has been a significant episode in the state’s history, reflecting growing appreciation for its natural and historic landscape.
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Technological Change in Prehistoric Connecticut:
The Soapstone Quarry, Barkhamsted

by Ken Feder, Department of Anthropology, Central Connecticut State University

The Farmington River has been a geographical focus of settlement for the aboriginal inhabitants of central Connecticut for more than 10,000 years. The natural resources available in the valley have been key to the survival of people here for all of that time.

One of those natural resources was a durable stone that the valley’s settlers could chop into sharp-edged and sharp-tipped tools and weapons. Many of the tools and weapons found in archaeological excavations in the valley were crafted from stone native to the Farmington River area, including basalt (a volcanic rock), hornfels (a metamorphosed variety of sandstone), as well as quartz and quartzite. Spearpoints, arrowheads, and cutting, scraping, chopping, and pounding tools all were made by the valley’s inhabitants from these local rock types.

Another type of local stone, available here only in a few, highly localized outcrops, was far too soft to be made into weapons or cutting tools, but was perfect for carving into durable, substantial containers and cooking vessels. Colloquially known as soapstone, steatite is a soft, metamorphic mineral. It feels slick, like soap (thus, the name), because it is composed primarily of talc. It is highly heat resistant and is not subject to thermal shock. Steatite, therefore, can absorb, retain, and radiate heat, making it a nearly perfect raw material for cooking vessels, especially those subjected to the direct heat of a wood-fueled fire. And, soapstone is easy to carve into a variety of shapes and forms.

Before the introduction of ceramic technology to the inhabitants of southern New England, about 3,000 years ago, soapstone was a vital and highly desired raw material and was traded extensively to those groups who had no direct access to the mineral in their home territories.

The soapstone quarry in Peoples State Forest, in Barkhamsted, Connecticut, was one such aboriginal steatite source and is largely intact, having been preserved by its location in a state forest. The Farmington River Archaeological Project (FRAP), sponsored by the Department of Anthropology at Central Connecticut State University, conducted excavations at the quarry in 2011 and 2013.

At a number of places at the site, large soapstone boulders can be seen with evidence of quarrying still visible, affording an excellent opportunity to investigate aboriginal soapstone bowl extraction and manufacturing techniques. In some cases, nearly complete bowl forms can still be seen in situ in the quarry. Much of the shaping of the bowl “blanks” was actually accomplished in-place, while the forms were still attached to the source rock by an underlying stem, giving the overall form a squat, mushroom-like appearance. Only after most of the bowl was shaped, with its bottom facing up, was the form undercut and then pried out of the bedrock. Once removed from the source rock, the bowl form was then hollowed out to produce a vessel.

During our two field seasons, we recovered several unfinished bowls that had been extracted from the bedrock, along with a large number of quartz and quartzite quarry tools including end picks and cleavers used to shape the form in the quarry and scrapers used to hollow out the form once it was extracted from the source rock. Charcoal at the site found in association with steatite quarry tailings has been dated to about 2,730 years ago, a time corresponding to the end of soapstone use in southern New England, when ceramic technology replaced steatite in the manufacture of cooking vessels.

We also found a number of in-place and unharvested bowl blanks. Given the considerable amount of labor that was invested in isolating the bowl forms from bedrock, why were the forms not extracted from the bedrock and shaped into finished

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CONNECTICUT PRESERVATION NEWS, September/October 2013

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vessels? We may never know, but we can certainly speculate.

Steatite vessels certainly have advantages over ceramic pots: they are more durable, won’t shatter when dropped, and do not suffer from thermal shock. They are, however, extremely heavy and therefore, far more difficult than ceramic vessels to transport. Perhaps even more important, unlike steatite which is geographically extremely limited and localized in its availability, clay can be collected from just about anywhere in Connecticut, eliminating the problem of raw material access.

It is possible, especially considering the radiocarbon date for the quarry, that we are seeing there a moment frozen in time, when one resource, steatite, was being replaced by another, clay, and the value of the bowl forms being worked on at the site dropped precipitously, rendering any further work on them uneconomical. Consider the analogy of, hopefully in the not too distant future, encountering abandoned and rusting derricks that might result if a new technology or alternate energy source suddenly replaced oil as a fuel. We hope that excavating the quarry will further illuminate this period of Connecticut prehistory when one technology replaced another, providing us with a possible model for such technological shifts in the modern world.
Nowadays, it takes less than two hours to drive from Boston to Hartford—traffic permitting. It was a different matter in the 17th century, when the trip could take two weeks over the narrow, rough, unpaved road known as the Connecticut Path. Following Native American trails through the forests, the Connecticut Path became one of the principal routes for settlers to Connecticut beginning with Thomas Hooker’s band, in 1636. Later travelers established other towns along the route, including today’s Woodstock, Ashford, Eastford, and Willington, and the road was an important conduit for news and commerce. In the continual westward expansion that is one of the main themes of American history, the Connecticut Path was the first Gateway to the West.

The Connecticut Path’s leading role lasted about a century, until around 1730 when a newer road, passing to the south, took its place as the main route between Massachusetts and Connecticut. In many places the Path fell out of use, although the careful eye can detect traces of it in the woods: a rough trail, two lines of stone walls a few yards apart, a stone slab bridging a narrow stream. In others, the Path continued to serve local traffic and still does. Looking like any other country road it hides in plain sight, an anonymous link to Connecticut’s earliest history.

One person fascinated by the lore of the Connecticut Path is Jason Newton of Holden, Massachusetts, a descendant of Thomas Hooker who wanted to retrace his ancestor’s route of 1636. That led to his discovery of the Connecticut Path and more research, for which he created a website. Most recently Mr. Newton has laid out driving tours following the Path. The first segments, launched this summer, cover the area from Webster, Massachusetts, to Tolland, Connecticut. The tours use GPS and cell phone technologies to guide visitors along the roads that most closely parallel the Old Connecticut Path. The routes are mapped with additional photos and descriptions using EveryTrail, an iPhone/Android app that is available in a free version.

For information on the Connecticut Path and a link to the driving tours, visit https://sites.google.com/site/oldconnecticutpath/.